

GSCCC Stakeholder Meeting Summary

January 23, 2009

On January 23, 2009, the Granite State Clean Cities Coalition held its quarterly stakeholder meeting at the New Hampshire Auto Dealers Association in Bow, NH. The agenda was significantly accommodate our speaker's schedules.

The meeting began with introductions and round table updates including an update from Andrew Keller on his "Congreenience" store and alternative fuel station in Dover. Steve Pesci, UNH discussed upgrades to the UNH CNG station, as well as the purchase of a Honda GX CNG vehicle and an electric truck. These purchases were made with the utilization of CMAQ funding.

Becky Ohler and Representative David Borden provided an update on the Biodiesel Study Commission's continued work on biodiesel issues including the need to increase the use of biodiesel in the state. Last legislative session the Commission worked to pass legislation requiring biodiesel producers to acquire a low-cost license with the state, as well as legislation requiring that all biodiesel sold in NH meet ASTM D6751 specifications. It was the hope of the study commission that requiring the use of B5 by the state would help to stimulate the biodiesel market in the state. Unfortunately the distribution network does not accommodate small quantity drops of biodiesel.

Terri Byer from Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter's office and Jane Pauley, Congressman Paul Hodes' office then requested that the group provide them with input on how energy policy should be shaped. Suggestions included:

- The stimulus package should take into account current staffing limitations and the lead time necessary to take advantage of new funding
- Projects should not require match funding
- Public transit projects should be included – rail for both public and freight
- CAFÉ standards should be made more stringent
- CMAQ funds should expand the projects they accept to include biodiesel

Next Dr. Melinda Treadwell addressed the group. She discussed the collaborative research done on diesel emissions as well as biodiesel emissions. Biodiesel does reduce particulate matter elemental carbon but organic carbon increases with the use of biodiesel. Nitrogen dioxide may increase, however their results were not statistically significant and more research is needed in this area.

Dr. Treadwell also discussed the importance of rural areas being able to access small quantities of biodiesel. A potential solution to this issue is being pursued in Keene through the local production of biodiesel from waste grease. The Monadnock Biodiesel Collaborative is working with Batchelder Biodiesel Refineries to develop a process that will remove waste brown grease (which is currently sent to the landfill), substantially clean the material, and use it to produce road-grade biodiesel. The group has been working for 18 months – most of that time has been spent on logistics. The group has two facilities – one in Nashua that is working on permitting for their facility and a second

site that should be finalized shortly. Keene State College is perusing a testing laboratory that will check for cloud point and ASTM specifications.

Barbara Bernstein presented a short summary of the Clean Cities funding opportunities. Since the meeting was running late, she asked that anyone interested in more detail stay for discussion and the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held April 3 at the Pease Tradeport office of DES. The agenda is being finalized.